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PP RUEHDE RUEHDH RUEHDIR
DE RUEHKU #0833 2351247
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 231247Z AUG 09
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3846
INFO RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY 1177
RUEAWJA/DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS KUWAIT 000833

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

NEA/ARP, L/LEI

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREL PINS CJAN SNAR KTIA KCRM PTER KU
SUBJECT: MLAT NEGOTIATION DATE STILL TBD

REF: A. STATE 68941

1B. KUWAIT 686

1C. KUWAIT 774

11. (U) On August 20, Kuwait's MFA formally informed post, via Diplomatic Note, that "the concerned Kuwaiti authorities are currently studying the draft MLAT agreement submitted by the American side. Regarding the visit invitation, we shall provide you with the proposed date at a later time." This follows on earlier comments (ref b) by Zakaria Al Ansari, Director of International Relations, Ministry of Justice (MOJ) that the Ministry intends to form a working group to review the MLAT text after the September 20-22 (approx) Eid holiday.

12. (SBU) Comment: This formal response is consistent with what the GoK has previously told us. Given that the Ministry of Justice has already indicated it won't be able to focus on the MLAT until after the Eid holiday, it is highly unlikely that the GoK will be able to come to the U.S. for October negotiations, although the November dates remain an outside, though unlikely, possibility. Post will follow-up with MOJ and MFA after the Eid, and suggests consideration be given to a date later in the Fall. End Comment.

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WILLIAMS